

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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"INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE."

The Supreme Court of the United States has recently made a very important decision regarding penal contract labor. It is especially interesting to us by reason of our contract labor system. Several sailors shipped in the States on the Arago, and signed the articles. In Astoria, Oregon, they deserted and were arrested there. They at once sued out a writ of habeas corpus, and insisted on the right to be released on the ground that they could not be lawfully arrested for violating their contract, as such arrest was forbidden by the Thirteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, which declares that there shall be no "involuntary servitude."

The case finally reached the Supreme Court, and that court was called upon to decide whether a penal labor contract was really unconstitutional.

The court decided that it is constitutional; that there is no "involuntary servitude" if the person contracting is at the time free to do so and there is no fraud in it.

Justice Harlan, in a dissenting opinion, held that it was a very serious matter to allow a penal enforcement of such a contract, and he thought that if it was declared constitutional the different States might in time pass very objectionable laws; that they might pass laws under which domestic servants might be imprisoned.

The majority of the court held, however, that in the case of seamen it had been for many years the practice to enforce the penal laws as contained in the Revised Statutes; that it was absolutely necessary to do so in order to protect navigation. A disputed point is, therefore, now settled, and there was no involuntary servitude in it.

So far as we can judge from the imperfect dispatches on the subject, received in San Francisco, the court has carefully confined its ruling to the case of seamen, and has in no way intimated that it applies to any other form of labor contract. It recognizes the necessity of avoiding the crippling of voyages by the desertion of crews, and illustrates the necessity of it by citing the case of enlisted soldiers, who may be punished in the event of desertion.

The comment on this decision is that communities or States do pass inconsistent laws, if it is believed that the welfare of the public requires it. A sailor may be "jugged" if he refuses to fulfill his contract. A farm hand will go free if he refuses to work. If you challenge the practical law maker on this point, he simply replies: "This is the only way we can make the thing go, and there is no use of speculating about it." It is another instance of the fact that laws are only what the people think ought to be done, for the time being, and that they may be altered to suit convenience or whims.

SUFFERING IN THE UNITED STATES.

The papers from the States give very sad accounts of the terrible distress due, in some measure, to the severe cold weather. The Mayor of Chicago has issued a special proclamation asking for money and aid for the poor. But it is not the cold weather only that creates such a condition of things in the land of the free and the home of the brave. There is, and there must be, some serious cause for this general misery which has settled over the entire country for several years. It pen-

etrates life everywhere. The rich are cramped, those with moderate means are in trouble, the poor are in misery. Land which the European peasant hangers for is as cheap as dirt everywhere in the United States. Food is cheap. Clothing is cheap. Yet from the Atlantic to the Pacific there is one great sea of sad upturned faces, while the wrecked homes dot the country everywhere. All this on the soil of a great virgin continent, with liberty to each one to carve out his own fortune, and all living under laws which allow the widest play of individual talent.

"He who breaks, pays." The penalty of the violation of economic laws is suffering. In the mad race for wealth in the United States there come periods of exhaustion, and all lie down and pant in the dust. The insatiable thirst for gold consumes the American soul. "There is no god but gold, and speculation is his prophet." The prophet tries to make a better state of things, but the mad crowd of speculators, Jew and Gentile, Christian and freeman, rush in, and the pulpits lie by the roadside, upset, twisted, in splinters.

THE TEACHERS.

The ability, character and enthusiasm of our school teachers is a comfort to those of us who know how these quiet workers are building up individual character. In no place beyond the boundaries of the old countries is there more intelligence and knowledge of the latest and best methods of teaching shown than in our own school conventions. They are making brave attempts to get away from the miserable traditions which have made the lives of children most miserable, instead of glad surprise and thrilling interest in learning.

If the Angel of Light touched the earth, he would size up the character of each community by asking, not who are the millionaires, but "What is the character of your teachers, and what do you pay them?" When the world is a little older we shall find that the instructors are the grenadiers of civilization, the sappers and miners too, pushing and marching and leading into the vast wilderness of the material and spiritual world.

The Japanese put the merchant at the bottom of the social ladder. We of the Anglo-Saxon race have nearly done so with the teachers in the past, to the disgrace of our civilization. But we are doing better now. The hope of each state is in the best work of the teachers. It is through them that we shall see the gradual decline of the age of the dollar, and the rise of the age of character and goodness.

Whatever the fate of our Islands may be, it will in due time be seen that the best work here is in the broad and liberal education of the children. Those who have it in charge hold the most responsible positions in the state. Government here, as elsewhere, is generally only a policeman, who "runs in" the physical and moral "drunks." It is only the finger of the social force. It keeps men from hitting each other. But the teacher deals with the very sources of individual and national life. So we must stand by our instructors as very important forces in our social and political life.

THE JAPANESE MERCANTILE MARINE.

It was believed that the laws passed by the Japanese Diet for encouraging ship building and navigation would quickly put a large fleet of vessels on the ocean, and Japanese agents have warmed the hearts of the Californians by holding out the promise of a new commerce.

But the Government is so strict in its application of the law that the building of ships is delayed.

Unless the construction of the vessel is strictly in accordance with the law, no bounty will be paid. The steamship companies ask for a liberal interpretation of the law, but the Government insists on the strictest. Several vessels already built must be reconstructed to some extent. Probably some satisfactory arrangement will be reached and the fleet will go into business.

Dr. McGrew's letter on the subject of annexation appears in another place; also his views on "missionaries."

The fact is, the Doctor has been for many years a missionary himself, but in service in another regiment. He has left to the "missionaries the care of saving the souls of the perishing heathen, and has devoted himself to saving their bodies and souls by bringing them under the benign laws of a Christian country which forbids heathenism. The laws of a powerful state the heathen must obey. The teaching of the missionaries they may neglect with impunity. Whittier said that under the buckeye of the free States the slave hunter could not rest. Dr. McGrew feels that under the same American buckeye the wicked heathen will be equally uncomfortable. The missionaries are pious in one direction; the Doctor is pious in another direction. Both are working for the good of mankind, and if they tread on one another's toes sometimes, it is only an incident in the struggle for the supreme good of all.

The Doctor says these new converts have been inconsistent. Inconsistency is one of the evidences of the difference between man and the monkey. Inconsistency means growth. Man grows. The monkey don't.

As the Doctor sees the growth of the annexation sentiment, he should open the facets and flood the town with a deluge of forgiveness. If the "missionaries" do not cover him with a returning flood of the same kind, they are wicked indeed, and we, who are a member of that body by heredity, will send in our resignation at once, and rejoice when calamity overtakes them.

Secretary of State Olney has struck a snag. The greater Republic of South America, which now includes Nicaragua, does not like the terms of the canal concession made to the Americans by Nicaragua, and it is quite possible that in some way not now apparent international questions may arise. Under Mr. Olney's arbitration treaty with Great Britain it is possible that the question of the Monroe doctrine might be in issue. The United States does not propose to leave that to any arbitration. In spite of Mr. Olney's sagacity and the researches of the State Department, it is impossible to look far into the future—or, in other words, look around the corner.

The Senators will sharply criticize the proposed treaty. In the mean time the American administration finds out that the Spanish Republics are not such lovely creatures, and may become very unruly. The cranky professors and scholars predicted trouble, but they were advised to shut themselves up in their studies and keep out of politics.

The New York papers state that Mrs. Bradley-Martin, a woman of great wealth, conspicuous for her hospitality in New York and London, is about to give a grand ball in New York, the cost of which will be enormous. Dr. Rainsford, the able preacher and reformer, protests against such a display of wealth, because it inflames the minds of the poor. In a similar case, when one of the Vanderbilt women gave a ball, several years ago, costing \$250,000, she gave the items of expenditure and showed that the working people got the benefit of it. It did not meet the case. She for-

got the power of example. If the poor only knew how little the rich get out of these entertainments, there would be no feeling of anger against them. But the poor believe that money brings happiness, and they will believe it, without discriminating between what it brings and don't bring. We have personally known ten men who have committed suicide, each one of them having an annual income of over \$20,000. Tired of life was the cause.

The number of persons in America who believe that there is an unequal distribution of wealth is increasing. Some rich men with broad views believe it. There is a growing disposition among the educated and intelligent rich men to avoid any display of wealth, in order to avoid provoking the angry feelings of the socialists. President Cleveland, who is falsely represented to be a rich man, said recently that one of the coming dangers of the Republic is in the accumulation of capital in the wrong hands. The world is yet a mere child in the use of riches.

The painful controversy between "Sybil" and "A Yale Student" must end. "Sybil" spoke of Yale as Mother Yale because Yale is the Alma Mater (cherishing Mother) and is always spoken of as such. "Yale Student" says he is one of the "sons of Eli" (Eli Yale, the founder), and objects to the term Mother Yale. A stranger stops a Yorkshire laborer, who is leading a child, in the road. "What a pretty girl it is," said the stranger. "No," said the Yorkshireman, "it's an 'im, sir, not an 'er." Is Yale an 'im or an 'er? Of course Sybil, standing on the letter of "Alma Mater," has the best of it. But a biologist might say that Yale is, like the European oyster, bisexual. We incline to take this view. We should like to hear from the alumni on the subject.

Next, did the Yale boys behave badly when Mr. Bryan made a most "aggravating" speech in New Haven? Some of them did and some did not. In our time, in that venerable bisexual institution, cat-calls and such things were a part of the natural, not the prescribed, course of study. They were effective means in suppressing the spread of false doctrines. One cat-call in a large assembly has more effect than a thousand minutes of silence. Mr. Bryan should have known this. Why do not the learned alumni of Yale come forward and settle the question? Are they, like Kathleen Mavourneen, "slumbering still," while the horn of the hunter is blowing blasts of defiance against the good name of our dear old 'im or 'er? But the controversy must now end.

The report that a Japanese ship of war will be stationed in this port is probably true. It has, however, little significance. Japan has a large navy with nothing to do. The commerce of the country is with nations that do not need much looking after, so the fleets are kept near home. The opposition in the Diet can always make an issue with the Government on the employment of these idle vessels. The Naniwa was stationed here in 1893. Members of the Diet attacked the Government because it saw no reason to send a war ship here. So one was sent. At the same time, the existence in these Islands of such a large number of Japanese would influence the Government to station a vessel here as a mere looker-on. Japan is not, we believe, looking eastward for territory. She is on the best of terms with the United States, and regards Hawaii as the little roast pig of the American luan. There always will be rumors of interference. Those who are not in the way of getting at the truth may be disturbed by them without sufficient cause. What may happen by reason of our voluntary invitation too large

immigration of Japanese is another matter. We may be dragging the Japanese Government into our affairs.

The annexation party in Hawaii will not find much comfort in the coming appointment of John Sherman for Secretary of State. The concluding paragraph of Sherman's "Recollections" says: "The events of the future are beyond the vision of mankind, but I hope that our people will be content with internal growth and avoid the complications of foreign acquisitions. Our family of States is already large enough to create embarrassment in the Senate, and a Republic should not hold dependent provinces or possessions. Every new acquisition will create embarrassments. Canada and Mexico as independent Republics will be more valuable to the United States than if carved into additional States. The Union already embraces discordant elements enough without adding others. If my life is prolonged, I will do all I can to add to the strength and prosperity of the United States, but nothing to extend its limits or to add new dangers by acquisition of foreign territory." As President-elect McKinley was in no way oblivious to the position of Mr. Sherman on foreign politics when he tendered him the portfolio of Secretary of State, the character of his own foreign policy may be forecasted from this extract.

The S. F. Chronicle makes the above extract from Mr. Sherman's "Recollections," and comments on the same. We need no discouragement at the apparent opposition to annexation in Mr. Sherman's mind. He is entirely committed to the views of his own party, on the subject of the control of these islands, and he is not the man to start off in independent ways. Besides, while he has always been opposed to the general principle of annexation of new territories, he has stood by his party, in its policy towards these islands, and that policy has consistently been ultimate annexation.

The opinions regarding the annexation of these islands given by certain United States Senators to an inquirer residing here, are of the horse-shod kind. Senators, in these days, are asked for all sorts of opinions, and as the servants of the dear people, generally respond with more or less ambiguity, generally more. On large public questions, they are compelled often to hold pronounced views. On a question like that of annexation, which is not really a national issue, they would not be pronounced, until the occasion calls for it. Any one familiar with the proceedings of the American Congress knows that the members constantly change their opinions, and the opponent of today may be the friend of tomorrow. For this reason, horse-shod opinions of the kind sent here, are of little value.

The civil power of the State of California appears to be unable to control the Chinese highbinders. The Chinese buy their way, and pay high prices. Their money power is stronger than the moral power of the State. The Tsar of Russia would quickly scatter such undesirable people, but a democracy is impotent before an organized money power, until the tide of indignation rises. Then it is tidal and sweeps almost cruelly. Money, like oil on the waters, calms down the sea of indignation. So, in San Francisco, is the spectacle of a compact lot of aliens doing about as they please to do, and the police look on. There is something suggestive to us in this when we regard our own future.

The reason of Mrs. Dominis' visit with President Cleveland is, no doubt, largely due to the broad statesmanship of Capt. Palmer. He would naturally advise her to "browse around a little," take observations, and if the Hawaiian tree shook out any plums, catch some as they fell. As Mr. Cleveland will soon be out of office, she was under some obligation to thank him for past favors before he left. At the same time, this served to bring Capt. Palmer be-

fore the nation, so that if he succeeds in bringing about a restoration, and in contracting an alliance, he can write his next book "from Cape Cod to a Throne."

The latest accounts from Cuba are that the revolutionists are about to use torpedo boats for the destruction of the Spanish war ships. Many have wondered why such boats have not been employed before this, as they would end the war, if effectively used. It has not been done because the cost of such boats has been beyond the means of the revolutionists. If contributions are now sufficient to enable them to purchase there will soon be new and startling events on the Cuban coast.

We are all mourners, in the death of John H. Paty. He has spent his days in these islands, has been a good citizen, an excellent business man, and a good husband and father. He comes of the old stock in these islands, of the men who were here, when the nation was founded. His birth was almost of even date, with that of the Constitution of Kamehameha III. With reverence we follow his remains to their final resting place, for we have lost a good man.

SAMOAN EXILES.

It is currently reported throughout Apia that the King and Government are using their influence in endeavoring to bring about the return of some of the chiefs, who, with Mataafa, were exiled to the Marshall Islands. We understand that Mataafa himself is not included in the list of those who are desired to be pardoned. The pardoning is entirely a question of argument, but if any are pardoned, why not all?—Samoa Herald.

FROM THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT.

Fernandina, Fla., Feb. 28, 1896.
Mr. J. George Suhrer, Drugist, City, Dear George:—Please send a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I would not feel easy if I knew there was none of this valuable Remedy in the house. I have given it a fair test and consider it one of the very best remedies for cough that I have ever found. One dose has always been sufficient, although I use it freely. Any cold my children contract yields very readily to this medicine. I can conscientiously recommend it for cough and colds in children.
Yours respectfully,
GEO. E. WOLFF.
Sold by all druggists and dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., Agents for the Hawaiian Islands.

A fine specimen of cotton, raised by John Tracy, at his home on Pensacola street, was brought to this office yesterday. He has only one tree, but the growth is of the finest, showing what is possible with the soil in the locality in which he lives.

The police court takes in on an average of \$700 a month, enough to pay for the Judge, Marshal, Deputy Marshal and Clerk of the Court.

A special trip will be made by the Waiialeale. She will leave at 12 noon today.

Sales Talk

With Hood's Sarsaparilla, "Sales Talk," and show that this medicine has enjoyed public confidence and patronage to a greater extent than any other proprietary medicine. This is because it possesses greater medicinal merit and produces greater cures than any other. It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that

Tells the Story. All advertisements of Hood's Sarsaparilla, like Hood's Sarsaparilla itself, are honest. We have never deceived the public, and this with its superlative medicinal merit, is why the people have abiding confidence in it, and buy Hood's Sarsaparilla almost to the exclusion of all others.

Customers Want Hood's. "We order Hood's Sarsaparilla in large quantities and it is the only blood purifier which a druggist can buy in large quantities without risk. It is selling very rapidly and customers who buy it once are sure to call for Hood's the next time. We believe Hood's Sarsaparilla must possess true merit in order to retain its popularity. Its sales exceed all similar preparations and its praises are often heard." L. SOMMER & SON, Springfield, Illinois. Thousands of druggists say the same.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Prepared only by C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

HOBSON DRUG COMPANY, Wholesale Agents.